

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-4, 6-12 and 14-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 9, 17 and 18 are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically on page 15, lines 15-23 and page 19, lines 21-25.

No new matter is added by these amendments. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-12, 14, and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2005/0028208 to Ellis, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Ellis”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,175,860 to Gaucher (hereinafter, merely “Gaucher”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,556,822 to Matsumoto (hereinafter, merely “Matsumoto”) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,285 to Isberg et al. (hereinafter, merely “Isberg”).

Claims 7 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ellis in view of Gaucher and Matsumoto and Isberg and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,501,516 to Clapper (hereinafter, merely “Clapper”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

extracting means for extracting program information for programs in accordance with personal preferences,

...wherein the program processing apparatus receives a termination request sent from the one of the plurality of electronic apparatus and terminates the link between the program processing apparatus and the one of the electronic apparatus when an operation switch of the one of the electronic apparatus is not operated for a predetermined period of time.
(Emphasis added)

Applicants further submit that the Ellis, Gaucher, Mastsumoto, and Isberg, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or render predictable the above discussed feature of claim 1. Specifically, Ellis, Gaucher, Matsumoto, and Isberg fail to disclose or render predictable “**extracting means for extracting program information for programs in accordance with personal preferences**” and “**wherein the program processing apparatus receives a termination request sent from the one of the plurality of electronic apparatus and terminates the link between the program processing apparatus and the one of the electronic apparatus when an operation switch of the one of the electronic apparatus is not operated for a predetermined period of time,**” as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 9, 17 and 18 are also patentable.

As nothing in the prior art cited in the Office Action cures the above-identified deficiencies, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. As nothing in the prior art cited in the Office Action cures the above-identified deficiencies, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections. As each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

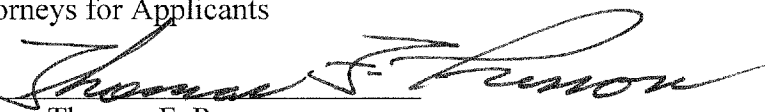
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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